Ernie Fletcher Governor

Teresa J. Hill, Secretary Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet

Christopher L. Lilly Commissioner Department of Public Protection

Jim Bruce General Manager Hardin County Water District #1 1400 Rogersville Road Radcliff, KY 40159-0489



Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615 Telephone: (502) 564-3940 Fax: (502) 564-3460 psc.ky.gov

December 15, 2006

Mark David Goss Chairman

> John W. Clay Commissioner

RE: Case No. 2006-00410

We enclose one attested copy of the Commission's Order in the above case.

Sincerely,

Beth O'Donnell Executive Director

BOD/jc Enclosure

KentuckyUnbridledSpirit.com



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Honorable David Edward Spenard Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Utility & Rate Intervention Division 1024 Capital Center Drive Suite 200 Frankfort, KY 40601-8204

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Honorable David T. Wilson II Attorney at Law Skeeters, Bennett, Wilson & Pike 550 West Lincoln Trail Boulevard P.O. Box 610 Radcliff, KY 40160



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Jim Bruce General Manager Hardin County Water District #1 1400 Rogersville Road Radcliff, KY 40159-0489 Honorable David Edward Spenard Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Utility & Rate Intervention Division 1024 Capital Center Drive Suite 200 Frankfort, KY 40601-8204 Honorable David T. Wilson II Attorney at Law Skeeters, Bennett, Wilson & Pike 550 West Lincoln Trail Boulevard P.O. Box 610 Radcliff, KY 40160

### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

### THE APPLICATION OF HARDIN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 FOR A GENERAL RATE ADJUSTMENT EFFECTIVE ON AND AFTER DECEMBER 2, 2006

CASE NO. 2006-00410

#### ORDER

On November 2, 2006, Hardin County Water District No. 1 ("Hardin District") tendered its application for an adjustment of rates. Because this application failed to comply with Administrative Regulation 807 KAR 5:001, Section 10(3)(a), the Commission's Executive Director rejected it.<sup>1</sup> On November 13, 2006, Hardin District supplemented its earlier submission and submitted revised Exhibits 5, 6, and 7. The Executive Director accepted this supplemented and revised application for filing.

In the letter accompanying its supplemental filing, Hardin District states that "[t]he effective date of the proposed rate and tariff adjustment has been changed to December 14, 2006."<sup>2</sup> Each of the revised tariff sheets included in the supplemental filing stated a "date of issue" of December 14, 2006, but did not state an effective date nor was it signed by an officer of the utility.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>See</u> Administrative Regulation 807 KAR 5:001, Section 2(2) (permits the Commission's Executive Director "to reject for filing any document that does not comply with the rules and administrative regulations of the commission.")

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Letter from David T. Wilson II, counsel for Hardin County Water District No. 1, to Michael Burford, Director, Filings Division (Nov. 9, 2006).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The original tariff that Hardin District submitted also failed to state an effective date and was unsigned.

KRS 278.180(1) provides that "no change shall be made by any utility in any rate except upon thirty (30) days' notice to the commission, stating plainly the changes proposed to be made and the time when the changed rates will go into effect." Pursuant to KRS 278.040(3),<sup>4</sup> the Commission has promulgated Administrative Regulation 807 KAR 5:011, Section 9(1), that specifies:

When a new tariff has been so issued and notice thereof given to the commission and the public **in all respects as hereinbefore provided**, such **tariff will become effective on the date stated therein** unless the operation thereof be suspended and the rates and administrative regulations therein be deferred by an order of the commission pending a hearing concerning the propriety of the proposed rates and administrative regulations under KRS 278.190 [emphasis added].

As Hardin District has failed to provide revised tariff sheets that state an effective

date or include the signature of a utility officer,<sup>5</sup> it has not provided adequate notice and

it cannot place its proposed rates into effect on December 14, 2006. If it wishes to

place the proposed rates into effect, it must resubmit the tariff sheets with an effective

date and with the signature of a utility official who is authorized to sign such documents.

Having considered the proposed rate revision and being otherwise sufficiently

advised, the Commission finds that, pursuant to KRS 278.190, further proceedings are

The commission may adopt, in keeping with KRS Chapter 13A, reasonable regulations to implement the provisions of KRS Chapter 278 and investigate the methods and practices of utilities to require them to conform to the laws of this state, and to all reasonable rules, regulations and orders of the commission not contrary to law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>See</u> Administrative Regulation 807 KAR 5:011, Section 3(5)(c) and (d); Section 4(4)(a); Section 6(4).

necessary to determine the reasonableness of the proposed rate adjustment and that a procedure schedule should be established to ensure an orderly and expeditious review of the proposed rate adjustment.

Hardin District has moved for an extension of time to respond to Commission Staff's First Information Request. The Commission finds that this motion should be granted and that Hardin District should be permitted until January 5, 2007 to file its response to Commission Staff's First Information Request with the Commission.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. This proceeding is established to investigate the reasonableness of Hardin District's proposed rate adjustment.

2. Hardin District's motion to extend the time in which to respond to Commission Staff's First Information Request is granted.

3. Hardin District shall file its response to Commission Staff's First Information Request with the Commission no later than January 5, 2007.

4. If Hardin District wishes to place its proposed rates into effect prior to the conclusion of this proceeding, it shall refile its proposed tariff with the Commission in accordance with KRS 278.180 and Administrative Regulation 807 KAR 5:011.

5. The procedural schedule set forth in Appendix A shall be followed.

6. a. All responses to requests for information shall be appropriately indexed. All responses shall include the name of the witness who will be responsible for responding to the questions related to the information provided, with copies to all parties of record and 8 copies to the Commission.

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b. Each response shall be under oath or accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the entity that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

c. A party shall make timely amendment to any prior response if it obtains information upon the basis of which it knows that the response was incorrect when made, or though correct when made is now incorrect in any material respect.

d. For any request to which a party refuses to furnish the requested information that party shall provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to furnish.

7. At any hearing in this matter, neither opening statements nor summarization of direct testimony shall be permitted.

8. Motions for extensions of time with respect to the schedule herein shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

9. All documents that this Order requires to be filed with the Commission shall be served upon all other parties.

10. Service of any document or pleading shall be made in accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 3(7), and Kentucky Civil Rule 5.02.

11. Hardin District shall give notice of the hearing in accordance with the provisions set out in 807 KAR 5:011, Section 8(5). At the time publication is requested, Hardin District shall forward a duplicate of the notice and request to the Commission.

12. Nothing contained herein shall prevent the Commission from entering further Orders in this matter.

Case No. 2006-00410

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Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 15th day of December, 2006.

By the Commission

<ATTEST Executive Director

## APPENDIX A

# APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2006-00410 DATED DECEMBER 15, 2006

Hardin District shall file with the Commission and serve upon all parties of record its responses to Commission Staff's initial request for information no latter than01/05/07
All parties and Commission Staff shall serve their requests for information to Hardin District no later than01/22/07
Hardin District shall file with the Commission and serve upon all parties of record its responses to the requests for information no later than02/08/07
All parties and Commission Staff shall serve their supplemental requests for information upon Hardin District no later than02/23/07
Hardin District shall file with the Commission and serve upon all parties of record its responses to the supplemental requests for information no later than03/09/07
Intervenor testimony, if any, shall be filed with the Commission in verified prepared form no later than03/23/07
All requests for information to any Intervenor shall be served upon that Intervenor no later than04/06/07
Intervenors shall file with the Commission and serve upon all parties of record their responses to the requests for information no later than04/20/07
Hardin District may file with the Commission the testimony of its rebuttal witnesses in written verified form no later than04/27/07
Last day for Hardin District to publish notice of the hearing date(To be scheduled)
Public Hearing is to begin at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of cross-examination of witnesses of Hardin District and Intervenors